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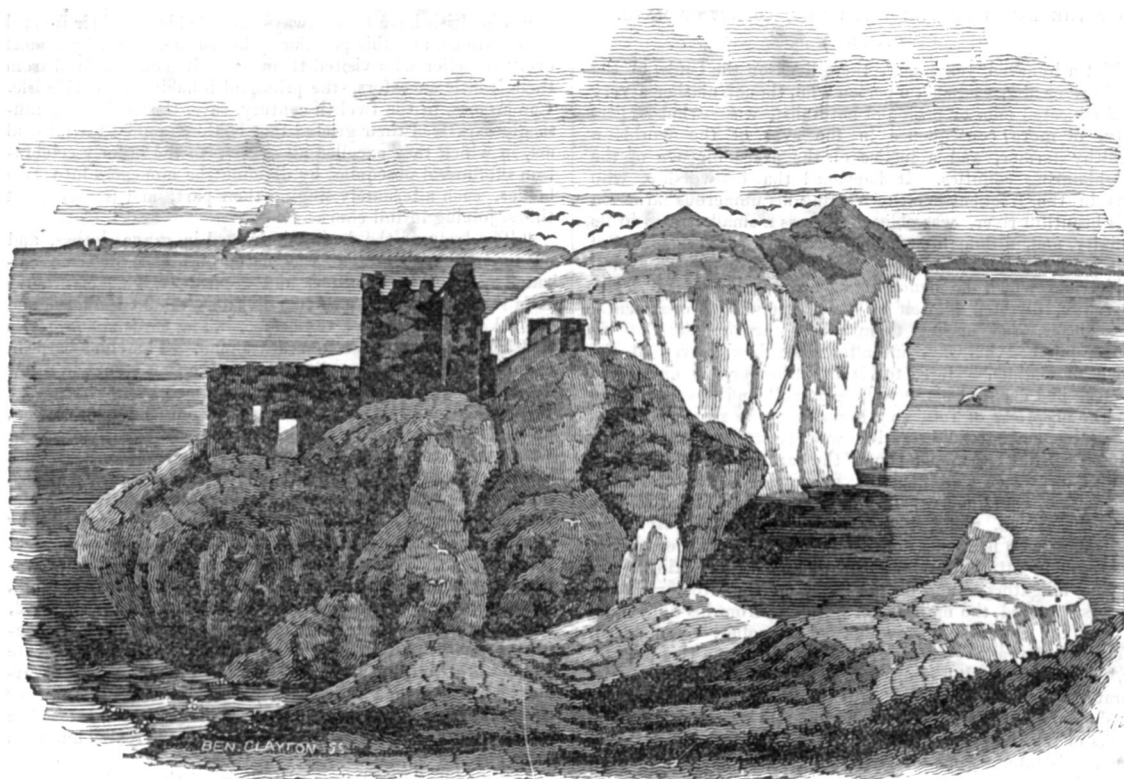
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Kenbaan Castle, County of Antrim.

KENBAAN CASTLE.

About two miles northwest of the town of Ballycastle, county of Antrim, on a narrow peninsula, composed of white limestone, which projects its perpendicular front into the sea, are the ruins of the ancient castle of Kenbaan, or the White Promontory—a name derived from that of the precipitous cliff on which it stands.

At present, little remains of this building except a part of the massy walls of the tower or keep, which from its bold and romantic situation, adds not a little to the beauty of the scenery of this wonderful coast. During summer, it is often frequented by parties, and the scene of many a festive collation; where instead of the grim warder pacing at its gate, are seen inside its portal the "fairest of the fair."

Tradition states this building to have been erected by the Irish sept of Mc. Hendric; but as its scanty ruins bear a striking resemblance to those castles reared by the first English settlers on the coast from the Boyne to the Bann, we think its erection may with greater probability be ascribed to them, or if it be an Irish castle, it is at least erected on the plan of those of the adventurers.

Be this as it may, about the beginning of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, we find it held by the Scottish clan of Mac Alister, who arrived in Ireland with the Mac Donnells from Cantyre. In 1568, the Mac Alisters entered into a conspiracy against the English quartered in those parts, and in an encounter which took place, two English horsemen were slain; and soon after, "Ranuel Oge Mac Alister Caraghe," chief of the Mac Alisters, was killed in revenge, by some English soldiers. On this commotion, Captain William Piers, governor of Carrickfergus, and seneschal of the county of Antrim, proceeded with some troops to the *Glynns*, where he made three of the Mac Alisters prisoners, one of whom he hung in chains; and Alexander, chief of that sept, making his submission about this time, the Mac Alisters sunk beneath the English power. Many of this name are still to be found in the *Glynns*.

Carrickfergus.

S. M. S.

FAIRIES.

Sir Walter Scott in his "Letters on Demonology and Witchcraft," quotes the following story from an old work entitled "Sadducismus triumphatus," by Joseph Glanville, printed at Edinburgh in 1700, as illustrative of the superstitious notion among the Irish that persons when engaged in some unlawful or sinful action were more than usually exposed to the power of the fairies.

The butler of a gentleman, a neighbour of the Earl of Orrery, who was sent to purchase cards, in crossing the fields saw a table surrounded by people apparently feasting and making merry. They rose to salute him, and invited him to join in their revel; but a friendly voice from the party whispered in his ear, "do nothing which this company invite you to." Accordingly, when he refused to join in feasting, the table vanished and the company began to dance, and play on musical instruments; but the butler would not take part in these recreations. They then left off dancing, and betook themselves to work; but neither in this would the mortal join them. He was then left alone for the present; but in spite of the exertions of my lord Orrery, in spite of two bishops who were guests at the time, in spite of the celebrated Mr. Greatraks, it was all they could do to prevent the butler from being carried off bodily from amongst them by the fairies who considered him as their lawful prey. They raised him in the air above the heads of the mortals, who could only run beneath to break his fall when they pleased to let him go. The spectre which formerly advised the poor man, continued to haunt him, and at length discovered himself to be the ghost of an acquaintance who had been dead for seven years. "You know," added he, "I lived a loose life, and ever since I have been hurried up and down in a restless condition, with the company you saw, and shall be till the day of judgment." He added that if the butler had acknowledged God in all his ways, he had not suffered so much by their means; he reminded him that he had not prayed to God in the morning before he met with this company in the fields and, moreover, that he was then going on an unlawful business.